

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 9, 2010

Ms. Ruth Y. Goldway
Chairman
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

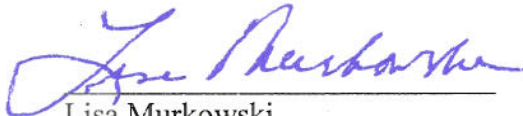
Dear Ms. Goldway:

The Postal Regulatory Commission has announced public field hearings in several cities to take comment on the proposal by the United States Postal Service to reduce mail delivery to 5 days a week. We write to urge the Commission to hold hearings in Alaska and Hawaii on this important issue.

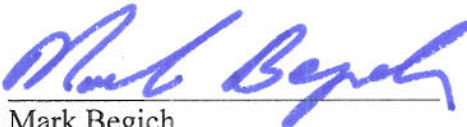
As you are likely aware, mail delivery in Alaska and Hawaii is very different from the other 48 states, as is our constituents' reliance on that mail delivery for basic and necessary items. The information you may receive from hearings held in Las Vegas, Sacramento, Dallas, Memphis, Chicago, Rapid City, and Buffalo will bear little relevance to the concerns of the people of Alaska and Hawaii. Such concerns include the likely degradation of efficient and timely delivery of medication, food, water, and other necessities.

While we are aware that the Commission has solicited public comment from residents of our states via newspaper and radio announcements, few comments have been received. As you noted in your press release of April 28, 2010, "The nationwide elimination of Saturday mail delivery service is one of the most significant changes the Postal Service has ever presented to the Commission." It is extremely important, therefore, that you are fully informed about the impact of this proposal on our constituents and to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Postal Service in our states. Holding hearings in our states will also generate press coverage that will further inform our constituents about the pros and cons of this proposal. We look forward to your timely response to our request.

Sincerely,




Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Mark Begich
United States Senator



Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senator



Daniel K. Akaka
United States Senator

cc: Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman; Commissioners Mark Acton, Nanci Langley, and Dan Blair